



Ernesettle Community School

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Tuesday 19th January 2021

Reading Support & Expectations

Good afternoon all Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well.

Firstly, may I take the opportunity to say thank you for your support, patience and understanding considering the current situation. We appreciate every effort you are making to support your child's Remote Learning via the Remote Learning Packs and Class Dojo.

As you are aware, we value our children's education greatly, so we wanted to write to you all to inform you of the Reading expectations and resources available during the lockdown period. Although your child may be learning differently for the moment, we still strongly advocate prioritising reading and ensuring your child is reading at least three times a week; though as you already know, research states that the 'little and often' approach is generally better for their development. Therefore, if you can encourage your child to read each day, or to have a book read to them, this would support their overall reading development most successfully.

We understand that usually your child would be able to exchange their reading books regularly so that they can continue to improve their reading skills and continue to develop their love for reading. However, at the moment, this is not possible for all families. We know many of you may be eager to continue to support your child's learning at home and so have created a list of useful websites linked to reading that you and your child will enjoy, including websites that offer free access to downloadable books.

General Websites to support Reading:

- **Vooks** <https://www.vooks.com/parent-resources> (All ages, currently free to sign up) A child safe, ad-free streaming library of read-aloud animated storybooks.
- **British Library** <https://www.bl.uk/childrens-books> (All ages) Explore centuries of stories, poems and illustrations with Discovering Children's Books. For children, teachers and book-lovers of all ages.
- **The World of David Walliams** <https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/schoolzone/> (All ages, free) If you're looking for some exciting activities to keep boredom at bay, then you've definitely come to the right place! Take a look at the treasure trove of fantastic activities, all inspired by David Walliams' tremendous tales.

Websites that offer downloadable books (all you need to do is create a username and login):

- **Oxford Owl** <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/> (EY, KS1 and KS2) Discover expert advice, educational resources and free eBooks to support children's learning home.





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- **Oak National Academy** <https://wordsforlife.org.uk/virtual-school-library/> There is a wealth of free reading books that can be read online, across a varying level of ages. Free subscription.
- **Rising Stars** <https://www.risingstars-uk.com> Free access to many decodable books once you sign up as a Parent/Child. 30 day free trial to access all the free ebooks.
- **Audible** <https://stories.audible.com/discovery> (All ages, free and no sign up) For as long as schools are closed, we're open. Starting today, kids everywhere can instantly stream an incredible collection
- **Epic!** <https://www.getepic.com/> (All ages, currently free to sign up) Instantly access 35,000 of the best books, learning videos, quizzes & more of stories, including titles across six different languages, that will help them continue dreaming, learning, and just being kids
- **Plymouth Libraries** <https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/libraries/ebooksandaudiobooks> You can use your library card to download eBooks and eAudiobooks. If you have a tablet or smartphone download the Libby App from the App Store or Play Store. You can borrow up to eight titles at a time for a maximum of three weeks; titles can be borrowed again if nobody else is waiting for them

In contrast, if your child is currently attending school due to them being a vulnerable or critical worker child, please continue to bring their school reading book into school so that it can be changed by the Class Teacher and Teaching and Learning Assistant.

Children will continue to be rewarded for the number of times they read at home so do remember to sign their reading record each time. For those of your learning and reading remotely, please take a photo of the signed reading record and upload this to Class Dojo every Friday, so that Class Dojo points can be added to your child's account for reading.

Finally, we thank you in advance for your continued support during these challenging times, especially regarding the Remote Learning for home.

Take care and we will be in touch again soon.

Yours sincerely,

Miss. E Umney,
English Leader and Assistant Headteacher

